May pave streets and alleys.

68. The Mayor and City Council may, whenever, in their judgment, the public interests or convenience require it, have any street or alley, or parts thereof, in said city, graded, paved, sewered or otherwise improved, and levy the whole expense thereof, or any portion thereof, not less than two-thirds, on the property binding on such street or alley agreeably to the extent of such lots thereon, and collect the expense thereof as directed in section sixty nine; and in case less than the whole cost is assessed upon the abutting property, the city shall pay the remainder thereof; provided, that in estimating the number of front feet upon such street or alley to be improved, in all cases when a portion of such front feet shall be occupied by a railroad track or its slopes, the number of front feet so occupied shall not be included in said estimate, nor shall said railroad be a sessed with any part of the costs of such improvements, unless such property of said railroad shall be used for other purposes than a track simply, in which case said property shall be estimated and charged in the same manner as the property of other parties bordering on such streets or alleys. And the Mayor and City Council shall provide, by ordinance, for the giving of notice by publication or by service of written notice personally upon the parties to be affected by said proceedings, and allowing them to be heard before any such proceedings are had. But nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent said Mayor and City Council from constructing any sewer or sewers or system of sewers, and paying for the same out of the funds of the city, nor to prevent said Mayor and City Council from charging a reasonable sum for the use of said sewers, either by an annual charge, or by a charge for the right of connection therewith, in perpetuity, all of which powers are hereby granted to said Mayor and City Council.

Petition for repaying.

68 A. The Mayor and City Council may, upon the petition in writing of the owners of the majority of front feet of property abutting on any street or alley, or part of any street or alley (not less than a block), verified by the affidavit of one or more parties to said petition, cause the same to be re-graded, re-paved, re-curbed, sewered or otherwise improved, and with such materials and upon such general plan, if any plan is specified, as the said petitioners shall apply for in said petition. After the passage or approval of any ordinance for the re-grading, re-paving, re-curbing, sewering or otherwise improving any street or alley, or part thereof, under this section, notice shall, within ten days thereafter, be given by hand-bills posted in conspicuous places along the line of the pro-

Notice to abutting owners.